# Uptake of HIV Services on Saturdays versus Weekdays: Recent Experiences in Ekurhuleni District

The Aurum Institute

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## Background

- Aurum is a DSP for Ekurhuleni
- Ekurhuleni is one of the highly burden districts
- In Q2, Ekurhuleni has 261,367 on ART (24,983) started on ART)
- There are 99 facilities (93 PHCs and CHCs and 6 Hospitals)
  - 10 facilities offering 24 hours and weekend services but no HIV services are offered after 4pm and weekends.
- The facility interventions are supplemented by community services using soccer as a vehicle to reaching men



## Outline: Solutions and Approaches to Reaching Adult Men







#### PREVENTION (VMMC)

- Focus on districts with low circumcision prevalence and high HIV incidence
- Age priority (for immediate impact): 15-34 years old in districts < 80% saturation
- Implementation of lessons learned from Project 281K
- Above-the-line communication activities (radio/limited TV, social media, taxi wraps, taverns, etc.)
- Strategic demand creation programming (localized, targeted, tailored) through social mobilization, local community-based organizations and other platforms

#### **HIV TESTING & LINKAGE**

- Scale-up Index Testing
- Scale-up Work Place Testing in Male dominated setting
- Financing Models
- Home based testing that used Self-Screening
- General practitioner model
- Conduct targeted HTS Campaign, community mobilization through CBOs followed by mobile testing
- Community ART
- Active referral through CHWs
- Male driver/mobilisers
- •Extended Hours

#### TREATMENT

- Supplemental Staff
- Adherence Guidelines & LTFU SOP
- Enhance Support and Adherence groups
- Utilization of WBOTs & CHWs
- · Linkage Officers
- Extended Clinic times
- Recruitment of data capturers
- Strengthening of existing data systems
- Facility appointment systems
- Community ART initiation
- Treatment literacy



## **Saturday HTS & ART Initiations**

- ☐ Seven (7 CHCs) and three (3) high volume PHCs
- ☐ Staffing: Professional Nurse, Counsellor & Data capturer
- ☐ Start date 14 April 2018
- ☐ AIM attract Men
- ☐ Hours: 08:00 16:00

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## **Targeting Men in Hostels**

- Ekurhuleni has a number of hostels that largely used by men.
   However, there is some evidence that FSWs are found in and around hostels.
- Some of the facilities near hostels show high HIV yield.
- Aurum started an intervention targeting men in hostels using soccer as tool.
- Interventions include engaging with indunas, creating awareness, holding soccer matches, offering screenings which include HTS.



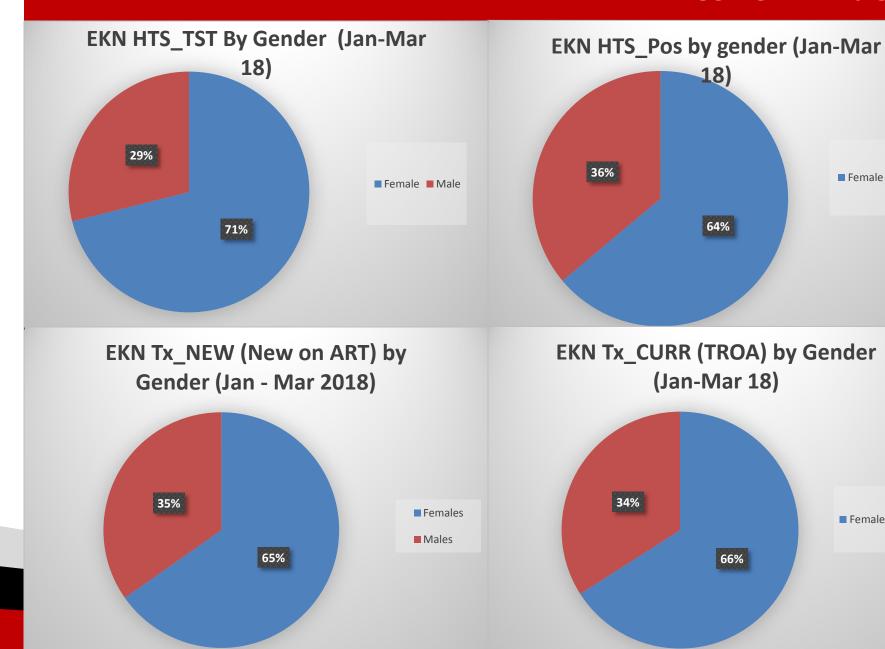
# Targeting Men in Hostels







### **EKN** care & treatment services disaggregated by gender



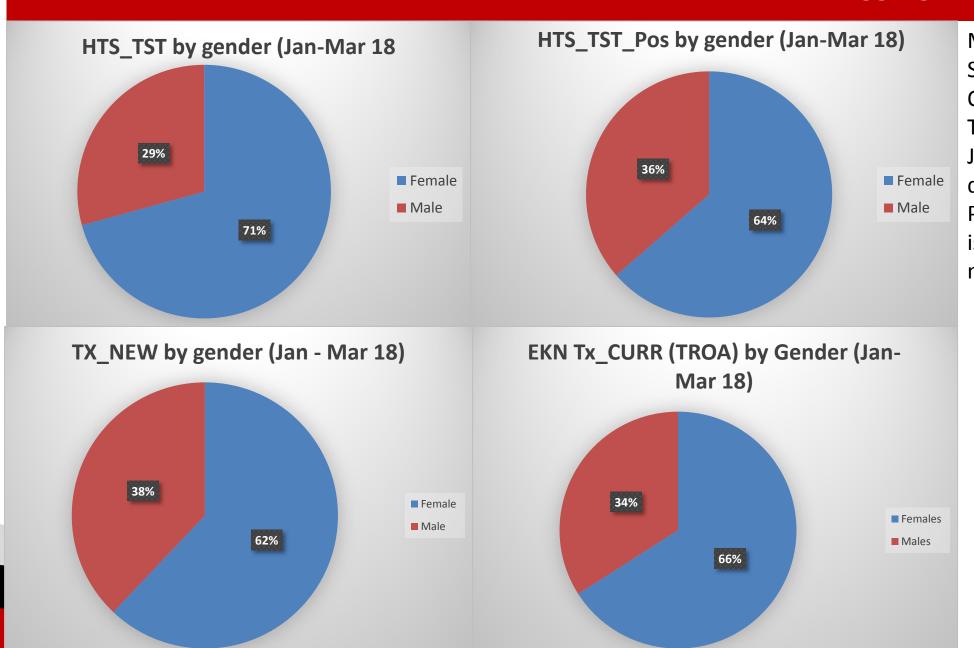
Males reached with services in Ekurhuleni District constitute 29% Of all clients who received Testing services during Jan-Mar 2018. The gender distribution of HTS\_TST Pos, Tx\_NEW and Tx\_CURR is on an average of 35% for males and 65% for females

■ Female ■ Male

■ Females ■ Males

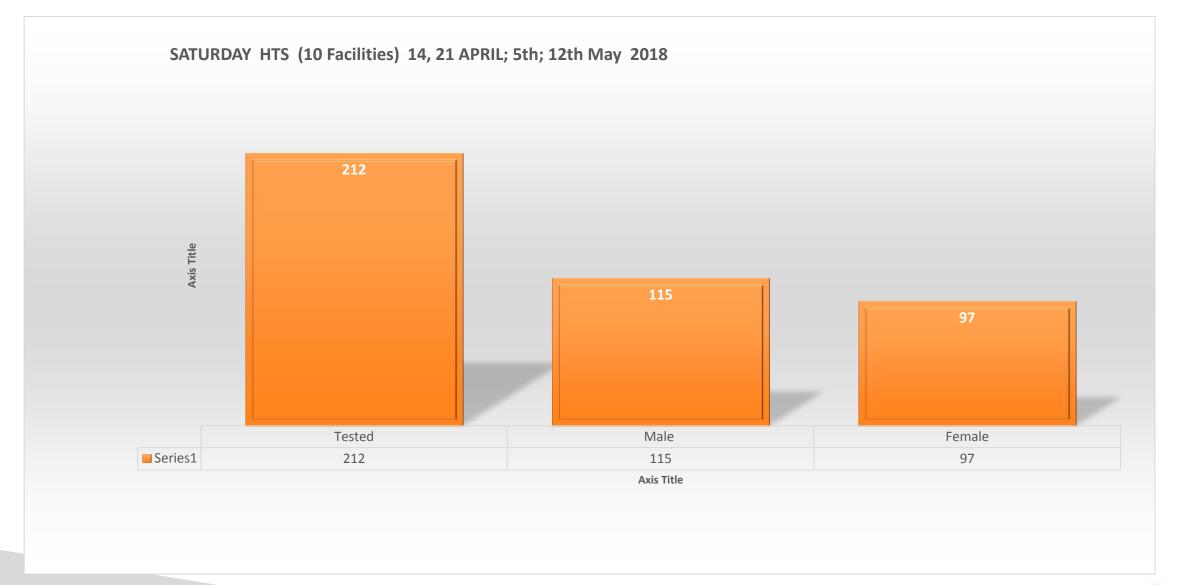


## EKN extended hours facilities care & treatment services disaggregated by gender



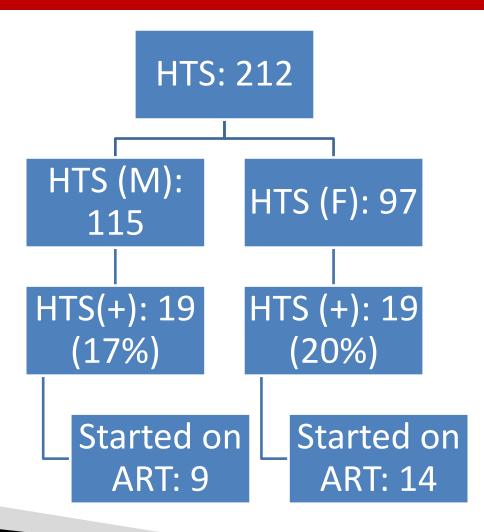
Males reached with Services constitute 29% Of all clients who received Testing services during Jan-Mar 2018. the gender distribution of HTS\_TST Pos, Tx\_NEW and Tx\_CURR is on an average of 36% for males and 64% for females







## **Results of Saturday Services (4)**



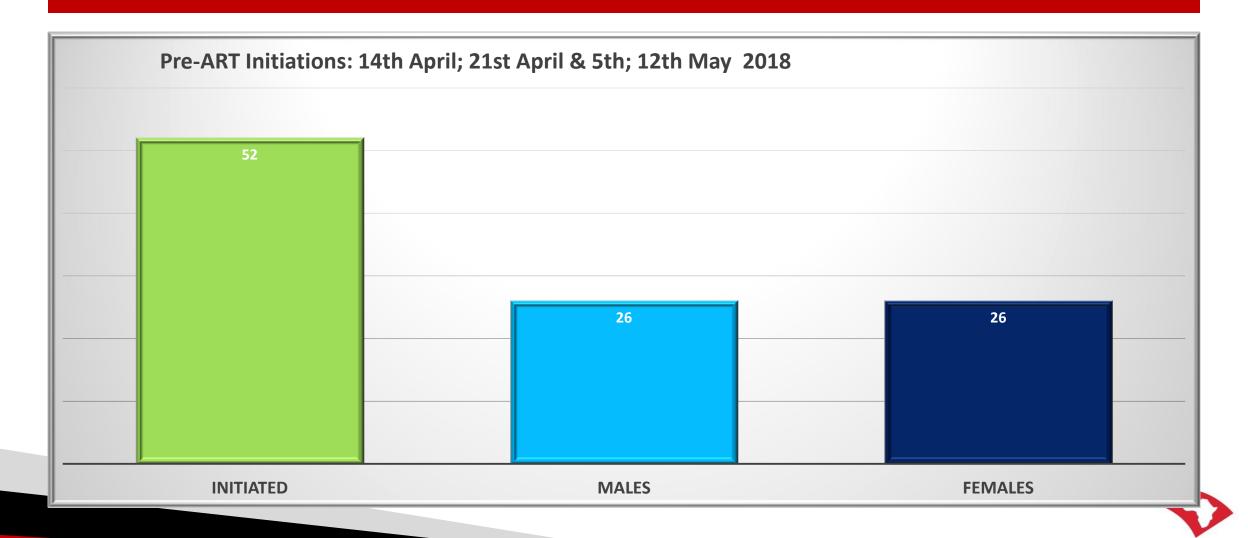


# Patients not Initiated on ART Same Day

Reasons	Male	Female	Number
Presumptive TB	7	2	9 (24%)
Refusal (Not Ready)	3	2	5 (13%)
Referred (PV Bleeding)	0	1	1 (3%)
Total	10	5	15 (40%)



## **Welcome Back Campaign – Pre-ART Patients**



## **Community Soccer Campaign – May 2018**

Community Soccer Campaign - May 2018

	Male	Female	Total
HTS	511	283	794
HTS+	17	33	50
Already Knew Status	4	8	12
Newly Tested +	13	25	38
Yield %	3%	12% (9%)	6% (5%)



## Challenges

- **Demand for service:** Some facilities still attend to very few patients.
  - Demand for services needs to be generated Media campaign
  - All facilities notified in writing re: Saturday initiations.
- **Blood collections:** Lab services pick up early or not at all during Saturdays.
  - DOH engaged on Lab services and addressing the matter
- Data Capturing: Some facilities still lock data rooms over weekends.
  - Engage facility managers
- Not all patients are initiated: Some have patients have clinical reasons like Presumptive TB
  - Follow up on these patients to ensure they are started on ART.



## **Conclusion and Recommendations**

- The Saturday services are reaching men both newly diagnosed and previously tested.
- The community soccer campaign is also reaching men although the positivity is higher among women reached.
- The Saturday services should be promoted and should be supplemented with extended hours during the week in the same facilities.
- Increase numbers of counsellors per team and introduce self screening to increase uptake of HTS
- Community ART initiation should be provided with community soccer campaign for hostels.



## Acknowledgments

- Ekurhuleni District
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- CDC and PEPFAR

